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Message Text

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14
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20

OMB-01 DRC-01 /183 W
---------- 062104
R 240903Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0384
INFO AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 3525

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, VS, HU
SUBJECT: ICCS: MISSING PA&E EMPLOYEES

REFS: A) SAIGON 18174; B) BUDAPEST 3519; C) STATE 207786

1. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON VARKONYI THIS MORNING TO REQUEST FONMINISTRY TO INSTRUCT ITS DELEGATION IN ICCS TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE AS COMMISSION AND INDIVIDUALLY TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF MISSING AMERICAN ELM AND THE TWO VIETNAMESE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL C.

2. AMBASSADOR PROVIDED VARKONYI WITH DETAILED INFORMATION ON SITUATION, INCLUDING LATEST INFORMATION ON WHERE WE BELIEVE THEY ARE HELD PRISONER. STRESSED ICCS RESPONSI-BILITY FOR PERSONNEL CONTRACTED TO THEM AND TRAVELING IN ICCS MARKED VEHICLE AND SAID THAT THIS WAS HUMANITARIAN ISSUE IN WHICH US CITIZEN DIRECTLY INVOLVED. WE THEREFORE HOPED GOH WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HELP SECURE HIS
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RELEASE AS WELL AS THAT OF HIS COMPANIONS. INFORMED HIM

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THAT SIMILAR DEMARCHE WAS BEING MADE IN POLAND ALSO, BUT
SAID THAT VECAUSE OF HUNGARIAN CHAIRMANSHIP OF ICCS
THEY HAD PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY THIS MONTH.

3. VARKONYI TOOK SPECIAL NOTE OF HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF
ISSUE. SAID HE WOULD PASS ON OUR REQUEST TO VIETNAMESE BUREAU

PROMPTLY, FROM WHICH WE WOULD RECEIVE OFFICIAL RESPONSE.
HE COULD INFORMALLY EXPRESS GOH DESIRE TO BE OF ASSISTANCE
IN HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS WHEREVER IT COULD. VARKONYI ADDED
THAT FUNDAMENTAL GOH INSTRUCTIONS TO ITS DELEGATION WERE TO
SEEK TO BRING ABOUT ADHERENCE TO CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENTS BY
BOTH SIDES. HE AGAIN EXPRESSED GOH VIEW THAT MULTILATERAL
ISSUES LIKE VIETNAM SHOULD NOT AFFECT DEVELOPING BILATERAL
IMPROVEMENTS WHICH WERE BEING FOSTERED BY BOTH SIDES.

4. AMBASSADOR REPEATED THAT US INTERESTS WERE
DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN VIETNAM AND THAT HUNGARY'S POSTURE
THERE ACCORDINGLY WOULD HAVE IMPACT ON ITS RELATIONS WITH
US. NOTED AS EXAMPLE THAT HUNGARIANS APPEARED TO BE LESS
SENSITIVE IN THEIR ACTIVITIES IN VIETNAM TO US INTERESTS
THAN DID THE POLES. VARKONYI EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THIS WAS
INTERNATIONAL FUNCTIONS POLES MIGHT HAVE BETTER UNDERSTANDING
ABOUT HOW TO DEAL WITH SOME MATTERS.

5. POLITICAL COUNSELOR DISCUSSED RELEASE OF PA&E EMPLOYEES
SEPARATELY WITH VIETNAM DESK OFFICER AT ABOUT SAME TIME.
PEDERSEN

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To: STATE
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